

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (New): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and synthesized HCV antigens which comprise core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 32 (New) The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is an HCV non-structural region proteins.

Claim 33 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is NS3 antigen.

Claim 34 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of HCV non-structural region proteins and HCV structural region proteins.

Claim 35 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the solid phase is directly sensitized with the genetic recombinant HCV antigen.

Claim 36 (New): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and one or more synthesized HCV antigens, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claim 37 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 38 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of HCV non-structural region proteins and HCV structural region proteins.

Claim 39 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 40 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the carrier protein and the synthesized HCV antigen are present at a ratio of about 1:3 to 1:20 (carrier protein: synthesized HCV antigen).

Claim 41 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the carrier protein is a water-soluble protein.

Claim 42 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 41, wherein the water-soluble protein is selected from the group consisting of BSA, ovalbumin and hemocyanin.

Claim 43 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claim 44 (New): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and one or more synthesized HCV antigens, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claim 45 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 44, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is selected from HCV non-structural region proteins.

Claim 46 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 44, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is NS3 antigen.

Claim 47 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 44, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 48 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 44, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of HCV non-structural region proteins and HCV structural region proteins.

Claim 49 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 44, wherein the carrier protein is a water-soluble protein.

Claim 50 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 49, wherein the water-soluble protein is selected from the group consisting of BSA, ovalbumin and hemocyanin.

Claim 51 (New): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and one or more synthesized HCV antigens, wherein the solid phase is carrier particles.

Claim 52 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 51, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 53 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 51, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of HCV non-structural region proteins and HCV structural region proteins.

Claim 54 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 51, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 55 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 51, wherein the carrier particle is selected from the group consisting of polystyrene latex particle, copolymer latex particle, erythrocyte and gelatin particle.